

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
ACDA-07 DHA-02 /067 W  
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R 091515Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY WARSAW  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6973  
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE  
AMEMBASSY BERLIN  
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST  
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY PROAGUE  
AMEMBASSY SOFIA

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EO 11652: NA  
TAGS: PFOR PL US  
SUBJECT: POLISH PRESS CRITICISM OF THE PRESIDENT

REF: (A) WARSAW 1612, (B) 76 WARSAW 8709, (C) 76 WARSAW 9031  
(D) 76 WARSAW 0028, (E) 76 WARSAW 0221

1. FRANCISZEK NIETZ DELIVERS THE FIRST POLISH BROADSIDE  
DIRECTED AGAINST PRESIDENT CARTER IN AN EDITORIAL ENTITLED " A  
DUBIOUS CRUSADE" IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY OF MARCH 8. NIETZ QUOTES FORMER  
SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER AS SAYING, "THERE ARE CERTAIN  
EXPERIMENTS WHICH STATESMEN SHOULD NOT UNDERTAKE, AS THE EFFECTS  
OF FAILURE CAN BE RATHER FAR-REACHING." NIETZ SAYS THE  
PRESIDENT HAS EJECTED KISSINGER'S UNDERSTANDING OF  
"THE DIFFICULT PROBLEMS OF DETENTE", ALONG WITH KISSINGER'S  
CONCEPTUALIZATION. HE SAYS, "IT HAS BEEN FORGOTTEN THAT  
A MORAL CRUSADE DOES NOT REPLACE A RATIONAL POLICY, AND  
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THAT CONDUCTING DELICATE DISARMAMENT TALKS WITH THE SOVIET  
UNION CANNOT BE COMPLEMENTED BY MEDDLESOME INTERFERENCE  
IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THAT COUNTRY."

2. NIETZ BORROWS FROM AMERICAN JOURNALISTS FOR HIS MOST  
POINTED COMPLAINTS: JOSEPH KRAFT ("THE PRESIDENT IS  
DIRECTED BY IMPULSE, IS RATHER TOO EMOTIONAL . . .");

U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT ("CARTER AND HIS TEAM ACT TOO QUICKLY"); AND JAMES RESTON ("CONSISTENCY DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE ONE OF JIMMY CARTER'S VIRTUES."). NIETZ SAYS THAT THE STEPPED UP CRITICISM OF CARTER IN THE U.S. DATES FROM HIS "OFFENSIVE ON HUMAN RIGHTS." HE ADDS THAT IT IS HARD TO DETERMINE WHETHER SUCH ACTIVITIES AS "RECEIVING THE POLITICALLY BANKRUPT, TREATING THEM AS PARTNERS IN THE DIPLOMATIC GAME", RESULTS FROM "A RATHER NAIVE VISION OF THE WORLD" OR A DESIRE TO "MAKE THE UNITED STATES INTO THE CHIEF BASTION OF MORAL AND ETHICAL PRINCIPLES IN THE FIGHT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS."

3. ACCORDING TO NIETZ, "FOREIGN POLICY SPECIALISTS IN WASHINGTON" HAVE DOUBTS ABOUT THE REPERCUSSIONS OF THE NEW POLICIES. HE QUOTES A TASS COMMENT THAT CONSTRUCTIVE COOPERATION CAN DEVELOP ONLY WHEN IT IS "BASED ON MUTUAL RESPECT FOR THE PRINCIPLES OF SOVEREIGNTY AND NON-INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS."

4. NIETZ ALSO CALLS INTO QUESTION THE "MORAL BASIS" FOR CARTER'S POLICY. HE LISTS POLICE BRUTALITY, POVERTY, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND THE "UNLIMITED POWER" OF THE CIA AND FBI, AS SOURCES OF DOMESTIC INJUSTICE IN THE UNITED STATES. HE REMINDS HIS READERS THAT THE UNITED STATES HAS NOT SIGNED THE UNITED NATIONS COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS (REF A). "BY HONORING DISSIDENT INDIVIDUALS ABROAD", THE USG "FOREGETS ABOUT MILLIONS OF BLACKS IN ITS OWN COUNTRY, ABOUT CHICANOS, AND ABOUT INDIANS DYING ON RESERVATIONS." HE CALLS FOR THE UNITED STATES TO PUT ITS OWN HOUSE IN ORDER BEFORE APPEARING AS "THE WORLD APOSTOLATE."

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5. NIETZ CHARGES THAT THE HUMAN-RIGHTS CAMPAIGN IS DIRECTED CHIEFLY AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION AND THE EUROPEAN SOCIALIST COUNTRIES. HE ASKS WHY CARTER HAS NOT SPOKEN OUT ON CHILE OR SOUTH AFRICA, CHIDES SECRETARY VANCE FOR REPORTEDLY SAYING THAT DEFENSE OF HUMAN RIGHTS ABROAD MUST BE "WEIGHED AGAINST ECONOMIC AND DEFENSE INTERESTS", AND CONCLUDES THAT "ADVISORS WITH DISTINCT ANTI-COMMUNIST VIEWS HAVE A GREATER INFLUENCE ON CARTER THAN WAS SUPPOSED".

6. COMMENT: THIS IS THE FIRST HEAD-ON ATTACK AGAINST PRESIDENT CARTER IN THE POLISH PRESS. IT WAS PRESAGED IN AN EDITORIAL BY NIETZ IN ZYCIE WARSZAWY ON MARCH 3 WHICH REPORTED DISSATISFACTION AT THE AMERICAN MAYORS CONFERENCE AND ASKED WHETHER THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION INDEED COULD NOT REDUCE THE MILITARY BUDGET IN FAVOR OF SOCIAL PROGRAMS. THE LATEST COMMENTARY CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH THE PREDOMINANTLY FAVORABLE PRESS THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION HAD RECEIVED SINCE THE ELECTION (REF B). AS RECENTLY AS

MARCH 1, GRZEGORZ JASZUNSKI OF ZYCIE WARSZAWY FAVORABLY  
REVIEWED THE PRESIDENT'S POLICY ON VIET NAM. MORE-  
OVER, TRYBUNA LUDU OF MARCH 1 OPTIMISTICALLY RE-  
PORTED SECRETARY VANCE'S COMMENTS ON HIS PLANNED TRIP TO  
MOSCOW. END COMMENT.  
DAVIES

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Reference:** 77 WARSAW 1612, 76 WARSAW 8709, 76 WARSAW 9031, 76 WARSAW 28, 76 WARSAW 221  
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